

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

In accordance with Rule 1.121, a complete claim listing is presented below. A status identifier (Original), (**Currently Amended**), or (**Cancelled**) precedes each claim. Only the changes in amended claims are shown by strikethrough (deleted material) and underlining (added material).

Claims 1-18 (Cancelled)

19. (**Currently Amended**) A method for purifying water comprising organic matter, the method comprising:

contacting the water with a colloid comprising a polymer ~~with water~~, including particles having an average diameter of 10 nm to 1000 nm; and
~~the water comprising organic matter; and~~
separating the colloid comprising the organic matter from the water.

20. (**Currently Amended**) The method of claim 19, wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of copolymers and homopolymers of polysulfone, polyethersulfone, polyphenylsulfone, ~~and~~ sulfonated polysulfone, or and mixtures thereof.

21. (**Currently Amended**) The method of claim 19, wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of copolymers and homopolymers of cellulose acetate, polyacrylonitrile, polyetherimide, ~~and~~ poly(vinylidene fluoride), or and combinations thereof.

22. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein said colloid is immobilized on a membrane or on beads.

23. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said contacting occurs in a fluidized bed reactor or in an agitated vessel.

24. (**Currently Amended**) The method of claim 19, wherein said colloids are removed from said water ~~supply~~ by filtration or by gravity-decantation.

25. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising desorbing the organic matter from the colloid.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising returning said colloids to said water.

Claims 27-29 (**Cancelled**)

30. (**Currently Amended**) ~~In a~~A device for the purification of drinking water comprising organic matter, the device comprising a colloid comprising a polymer including particles having an average diameter of 10 nm to 1000 nm~~including activated carbon and optional chemical absorption resins, the improvement comprising substitution of at least a portion of the activated carbon with polymer colloids.~~

31. **(Currently Amended)** ~~11-1~~11The device of claim 30, wherein the polymer is a sulfone polymer.

32. **(Currently Amended)** ~~11-1~~11The device of claim 30, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of copolymers and homopolymers of cellulose acetate, polyacrylonitrile, polyetherimide, and poly(vinylidene fluoride), or combinations thereof.

33. **(Currently Amended)** ~~11-1~~11The device of claim 30, wherein the drinking water comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of humic acid, geosmin, and 2-methylisoborneol.

34. **(NEW)** The device of claim 30, further comprising activated carbon.

35. **(NEW)** The device of claim 30, further comprising chemical absorption resins.

36. **(NEW)** The device of claim 30, where the polymer is selected from the group consisting of copolymers and homopolymers of polysulfone, polyphenylsulfone, sulfonated polysulfone, cellulose acetate, polyacrylonitrile, polyetherimide, poly(vinylidene fluoride), copolymers of polyethersulfone, and mixtures thereof.

37. **(NEW)** The method of claim 19, where the polymer is a homopolymer or a copolymer of polysulfone.

38. **(NEW)** The method of claim 19, where the particles of the colloid have an average diameter of 25 nm to 500 nm.

39. **(NEW)** The method of claim 19, where the polymer has a molecular weight of 17,000 to 35,000.

40. **(NEW)** The method of claim 19, where the polymer has a molecular weight of 13,000 to 23,000.